IN THE CLAIMS

1.   (currently amended)   An electronic apparatus having one or more functions on which use limitations can be imposed, comprising

~~a including~~:

a processor operable to execute said one or more functions;

storage operable to store contents of use limitations for said one or more functions, the processor being operable to reference a representation of said contents of use limitations stored in said storage to determine said contents of use limitations for said one or more functions, and being operable to execute said one or more functions only as permitted by said contents of use limitations; and

an infrared light receiving unit operable to receive use-permitting key information transmitted by infrared communication, <u>wherein the use-permitting key information is from a source of use permission which transmitted the use-permitting key information over a network, and</u> wherein said contents of use limitations are derived from said use-permitting key information.

2.   (previously presented)   The electronic apparatus according to claim 1 wherein said contents of use limitations represent at least one of a number of days said one or more functions are permitted to be executed, a number of times said one or more functions are permitted to be executed, or a time period in which said one or more functions are permitted to be executed.

3.   (previously presented)   The electronic apparatus according to claim 2 further comprising

a second storage operable to record at least one of: the number of days said one or more functions has been executed, or the number of times said one or more functions has been executed by said processor, wherein said processor is operable to reference said number of days or times of use stored in said second storage to determine at least one of said number of days or said number of times to control execution of said one or more functions.

4.   (previously presented)   The electronic apparatus according to claim 1 further comprising an operating input unit operable to receive operator input representing second use-permitting key information supplied from a source of use permission, wherein said contents of use limitations are derived from said second use-permitting key information.

5.   (previously presented)   The electronic apparatus according to claim 1 further comprising

a bar code readout unit operable to read second use-permitting key information, printed as a bar code, supplied from a source of use permission, wherein said contents of use limitations are derived from said second use-permitting key information.

6.   (canceled)

7.   (canceled)

8.   currently amended)   An electronic apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said electronic apparatus is operable to transmit identifying information for identifying the electronic apparatus and a request for permission for using the electronic

apparatus over a network to a server of a source of use permission.

9.   (canceled)

10.   (currently amended)   The electronic apparatus according to claim 8 further comprising

a second storage operable to store the number of days or times said one or more functions has been used in said function executing unit, wherein

said processor when requested to execute said one or more functions references the contents of use limitations stored in said storage and said information representing at least one of the number of days or the number of times of use of said one or more functions, said information being stored in said second storage, to control execution of said one or more functions.

Claims 11-29.   (canceled)

30.   (currently amended)   A system, comprising:

a mobile terminal having a wireless communication function and an infrared ray communication function, the mobile terminal operable to acquire use-permitting key information from a source of use permission over a network; and

an electronic apparatus having one or more functions on which use limitations can be imposed, including:

a processor operable to execute said one or more functions;

storage operable to store contents of use limitations for said one or more functions, the processor being operable to reference a representation of said contents of use limitations stored in said storage to determine said contents of use

limitations for said one or more functions, and being operable to execute said one or more functions only as permitted by said contents of use limitations; and

an infrared light receiving unit operable to receive said use-permitting key information transmitted by infrared communication from the mobile terminal, wherein said contents of use limitations are derived from said use-permitting key information.